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BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

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Contact: Scott Pavey (509) 536-1200  
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BLM  
Spokane District Office

## BLM Seeking Comments on Fishtrap Target Shooting Proposal

**Spokane, WA** – The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Spokane District is seeking public comments on a proposal to improve visitor safety at Fishtrap Lake Recreation Area, specifically in regard to target shooting. This area is located 30 miles South/West of Spokane, WA on the border of Spokane and Lincoln Counties, near the town of Sprague, WA.

In recent years, an increasing number of residents and land users have expressed concern about target shooting in, or near areas where other activities were taking place on the Fishtrap Lake Recreation Area. The BLM has responded to complaints by enforcing Federal regulations which prohibit shooting across roads, trails, bodies of water, and toward areas where people are camped, picnicking, or gathered. However, increased enforcement efforts have not resolved the safety concerns. This has prompted the BLM to consider alternative management options in an attempt to provide for the safety of the public.

Options being considered include the creation of buffer zones around high use areas (e.g. roads, trailheads, parking lots, bulletin boards, and corrals) where discharging firearms would be prohibited. Another option under consideration is to establish a no target shooting area where most other types of recreation occur.

The proposals are intended to address the conflicts and safety concerns associated with target shooting and are not intended to affect the right of the public to hunt or possess firearms on public lands.

More information about this action is available on the internet at [www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans](http://www.blm.gov/or/districts/spokane/plans). Information is also available at the Spokane BLM District Office, located at 1103 North Fancher Road, Spokane Valley, WA, 99212. Or call (509) 536-1200.

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